From: John Heltman < john.heltman@iwpnews.com>
To: Lisa Mcclain-Vanderpool/R8/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 01/09/2012 09:06 AM

Subject: Re: Nutrient variance study - information request

Lisa,

I saw that Region 8 sent a letter to Montana on its variance on the 6th. The letter doesn't mention any conclusions of the economic analysis the region did on the impact of the variance on private industry -- just wondering if there's anything like that you could share with me. I don't know if there's a formal report or whatever, but if not, if you could comment on the conclusions of the study I'd appreciate it.

I'm writing this as we speak, so the sooner you can get back to me the better. Thanks, John

John H. Heltman Managing Editor Inside EPA's Water Policy Report Suite 201, 1919 S. Eads Street Arlington, VA 22202 (703) 416-8564

On 12/1/2011 6:27 PM, Mcclain-Vanderpool.Lisa@epamail.epa.gov wrote: Sorry- technical difficulties today.

Here is what I could find out at this point. I might get more but I think this gets at your questions. Let me know if you need more follow up. The "tool" is an analytical tool to help determine the economic need for variances.

- EPA is sensitive to the financial situations that companies and municipalities may find themselves in during these tough economic times. Because of that, EPA is investigating ways, such as variances, to give facilities some temporary relief from the potentially low permit limits that may result from numeric nutrient criteria that states adopt to protect their waters.
- EPA has developed a draft tool to help states determine which facilities, both publicly owned and private, can qualify for variances to the water quality standards based on economics.
- EPA is working closely with Montana to pilot test this new tool.
- EPA plans to share this tool with the other states. States can use the same approach as Montana but would need to use information specific to their own circumstances.

Lisa McClain-Vanderpool EPA Region 8 Public Affairs Office Office (303)312-6077 Cell (303)501-4027 mcclain-vanderpool.lisa@epa.gov

-----John Heltman < john.heltman@iwpnews.com> wrote: -----

To: Lisa Mcclain-Vanderpool/R8/USEPA/US@EPA From: John Heltman < john.heltman@iwpnews.com>

Date: 12/01/2011 04:14PM

Subject: Re: Nutrient variance study - information request

No I didn't get a message John H. Heltman Associate Editor Inside EPA's Water Policy Report Suite 201, 1919 S. Eads Street Arlington, VA 22202 (703) 416-8564

On 12/1/2011 5:45 PM, Mcclain-Vanderpool.Lisa@epamail.epa.gov wrote: John - did you receive a message from me recently? I don't see it in my sent messages.

Lisa

Lisa McClain-Vanderpool

EPA Region 8
Public Affairs Office
Office (303)312-6077
Cell (303)501-4027
mcclain-vanderpool.lisa@epa.gov